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RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT

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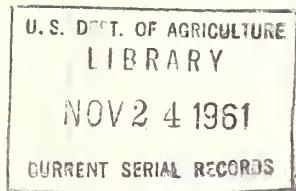
newsletter

October 1961

No. 37

*We must show the
world what a
free economy can do
...to put unused
capacity to work,
spur new
productivity and
foster higher
economic growth.*

President Kennedy.



Moving rapidly to carry out its responsibilities for Area Redevelopment aid, the Department has reviewed and approved 56 overall economic development plans covering 140 rural redevelopment counties in 21 States.

Nineteen of these plans, including 64 counties in 14 States, also have been provisionally approved by the Department of Commerce. Developed by local people, these plans are first steps to submitting requests for aid on specific projects.

Areas involved in plans approved by both Departments:

Alabama: Autauga, Bibb, Chilton, Coosa, and Elmore Counties.
Alabama: Fayette County.
Arkansas: Newton, Searcy, Baxter, and Marion Counties.
Arkansas: Madison County.
Florida: Holmes, Jackson, and Washington Counties.
Georgia: Warren County.
Indiana: Harrison County.
Michigan: Ontonagon and Marquette Counties.
Minnesota: Cook, Lake, St. Louis, Koochiching, Lake of the Woods, Beltrami, Clearwater, Itasca, Hubbard, Cass, Crow Wing, Aitkin, and Carlton Counties.
Missouri: St. Francois, Washington Counties.
New Mexico: Socorro County.
Oklahoma: Okmulgee, Haskell, McIntosh, and Pittsburg Counties.
Pennsylvania: Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Montour, Northumberland, Pike, Schuylkill, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming Counties.
Pennsylvania: Fayette, Greene, and Washington Counties.
South Carolina: Chesterfield County.
Tennessee: Johnson County.
Texas: Newton, Sabine, San Augustine, Shelby, and Angelina Counties.
Texas: Houston County.
Texas: Red River County.



U. S. Department of Agriculture
Office of Information, Washington 25, D. C.



Growth Through Agricultural Progress

One project proposal has been approved by both Departments -- a water works project at Gassville, Arkansas. A water and sewage system at Mountain City, Tennessee, has provisional approval.

In early October, five other project proposals in four States had been approved by USDA and were being reviewed in Commerce.

Secretary Freeman Calls for Extensive RAD Effort

"I want to talk to you about rural areas development, because it is one of the areas where the new frontier challenges us in rural America. It challenges us to bring to rural America opportunities for a standard of living, for recreation, for opportunity to enjoy the things of life commensurate with those of our urban or city areas. By and large that is not the case today. Rural areas development stands as one of the great challenges that we as a nation face."



With these words, spoken without a written text, Secretary Freeman recently helped to dedicate the Mountain Run Watershed at Culpeper, Va. The Secretary said that the nation's Small Watershed Program, to which the Department of Agriculture makes a major financial and technical contribution, ties in closely to rural areas development. Eight thousand of the 13,000 small watersheds in the nation should be developed under the watershed program, he said, but at present only 350 are so developed.

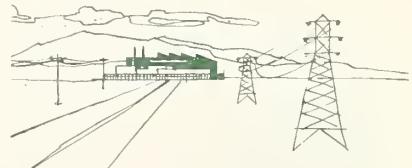
The people of Mountain Run Watershed, including those in Culpeper, were faced with the dual problem of floods and water shortage. Flood damages were averaging \$12,000 a year. Yet, when the droughts came, Culpeper had to draw on emergency supplies stored in an abandoned quarry.

Farmers and townspeople worked together to solve both problems. Conservation farming methods were adopted on watershed lands. Six miles of stream channel were cleared and improved. Three flood-prevention dams were built. Municipal water storage space was provided behind one of the dams.

As a result of now-plentiful water and flood protection, three new industries with payrolls totaling 400 have established branches at Culpeper. Others are asking about possible sites. The town has a new hospital, previously held up for lack of water. New home developments, made possible by extension of water mains, are springing up.

REA Loans Creating New Jobs

New job opportunities are being opened with REA's first two rural areas development loans under its broadened policy on the consumer financing provision (Section 5) of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936.



The first loan (\$25,000) was to a rural electric co-op in North Dakota which in turn made a loan to a building supply firm for the purchase of electrically-operated gravel-crushing machinery. The gravel-crushing operation, thus made possible, will employ 10 additional people.

The second loan (\$280,000) was to a Minnesota electric cooperative, which will lend \$250,000 to the operator of a millwork plan to finance electrical equipment. The plant, employing 160 people, was destroyed by fire last June. The co-op also will lend \$30,000 to a company which grades and processes seed potatoes. The electric equipment so financed will help to create 4 full-time and 75 seasonal jobs.

Georgia Scores a First

County Rural Areas Development Committees have been organized in every one of Georgia's 159 counties. Georgia thus becomes the first to have operating RAD committees in every county.



A wealth of local leadership has been enlisted in these county committees, organized with help of the Georgia Extension Service. One 15-member committee includes several farmers, a city manager, a newspaper editor, the chairman of the County Board of Commissioners, and the owner of a radio station.

Another county has 60 members on its RAD committee, including representatives of business, industry, labor, city and county government, banking, churches, health services, service clubs, fraternal organizations, and other interests.

FHA New Housing Program Stimulates Rural Building

Also of great importance in RAD is the new housing program of Farmers Home Administration. A total of \$430 million in loans is authorized over a four-year period to build and improve housing of farmers and others in open country areas and small towns of less than 2,500 population. Insured loans for farm labor housing, small grants for necessary improvements of dwellings of older people and others without enough income to repay loans, and housing studies are also part of the new FHA program.



Housing loans are made to construct, repair, and remodel dwellings and essential farm buildings, to modernize homes, add bathrooms, central heating, modern kitchens, and other home improvements; to enlarge and remodel farm service buildings and put in related facilities such as paved feedlots; to provide water for farmstead and household use.

The proposed housing must be adequate to meet the family's needs yet modest in size and design.

Rural housing loans also will put more carpenters, plumbers, and electricians to work, and will increase sales in lumber and building supply firms.

Coming Soon -- Another Success Story

The people of Watauga County, North Carolina, have been unusually successful in area development, and now are moving ahead faster than ever. Their story is told in a new leaflet prepared by the Federal Extension Service, and soon to come from the printer. Announcement will be made as soon as copies are available.

ARA Field Representatives Named

Twenty-one representatives have been assigned to field operations for the Area Redevelopment Administration of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>OFFICE LOCATION</u>	<u>TERRITORY</u>
Linus L. Burke	Denver, Colorado	Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Utah
Paul H. Cullen	Bowling Green, Kentucky	Kentucky
Thomas Current	Portland, Oregon	Oregon, Washington, California, Montana, Alaska, Hawaii
Kenneth Curtis	Cape Elizabeth, Maine	Maine
Raymond DePaulo	Charleston, West Virginia	West Virginia
Irving L. Franklin	Boston, Massachusetts	Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island
Charles Hammarlund	Hartford, Connecticut	Connecticut
S. J. Haycraft	New Orleans, Louisiana	Louisiana, Arkansas
Stanley Hays	Frankfort, Kentucky	Kentucky
D. Fred Hurley	Atlanta, Georgia	Georgia, Florida
William F. Jewell	Detroit, Michigan	Michigan, Wisconsin
Forrest E. Koch	St. Louis, Missouri	Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, N.Dak., S.Dak.
Charles E. Leete	Annapolis, Maryland	Maryland, Delaware
Stewart McBryde	Richmond, Virginia	Virginia, Tennessee
Raymond C. Morrison	Fort Worth, Texas	Texas, Oklahoma
Kaarlo Otava	Mt. Iron, Minnesota	Minnesota
Allan H. Pett	Cincinnati, Ohio	Ohio, Indiana
Wayne R. Shields	Athens, Georgia	Alabama, Mississippi, N.C., S.C., Puerto Rico
Frank Tsutras	Williamson, West Virginia	West Virginia
Allan R. Williams	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania, New Jersey
Allen Yakeley	Syracuse, New York	New York